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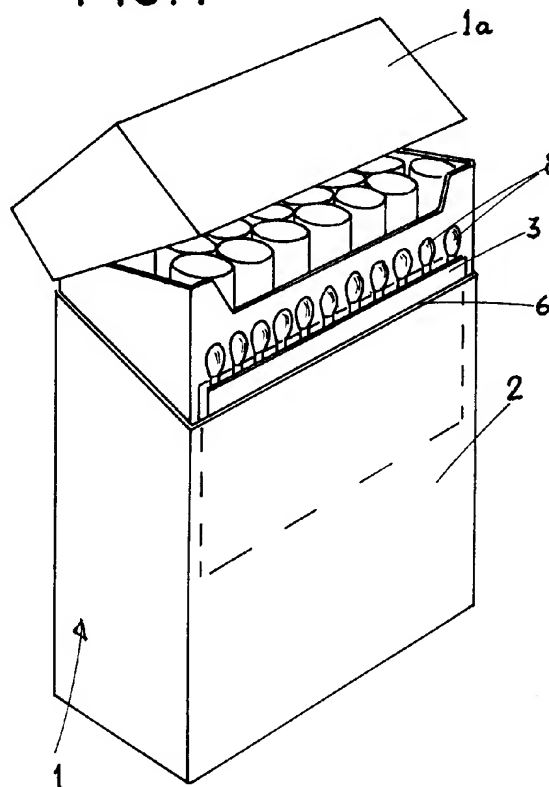
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(54) **Box for cigarettes.**

(57) It is formed by a cardboard container with an articulated lid (1a) made from the same cardboard which forms the container, and it is characterised in that it comprises internally a thin strip (3) with a plurality of laterally juxtaposed pockets (4) with one of their ends open (5), the same number of matches (7) being housed within said pockets (4) with their heads (8) protruding from the open ends of the respective pockets (4), while on one of the surfaces of the box (1) there is a region (9) for striking the heads (8) of the matches (7) in order to light them.

FIG. 1



The present invention refers to a cigarette container which incorporates matches and a striking surface.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In these days there are known cardboard boxes for cigarettes, and several types of match boxes and lighters, which are bought separately, with the drawback that the smoker has to buy and carry two independent objects.

As a consequence, there are occasions when smokers do not have available means for lighting their cigarettes, either because they have forgotten their lighter or matches, or because these have run out. Thus it can happen that smokers are unable to obtain matches or a lighter at the time when they desire to smoke.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The box which is the object of this invention has been devised to prevent such drawbacks, and ensure that the smoker will always have matches to hand when he has the box of cigarettes available.

The said box is of the type which is formed by a cardboard container with an articulated lid made from the same cardboard which forms the container. On the base of this embodiment the box is essentially characterised in that it presents, incorporated internally, a thin strip with a plurality of laterally juxtaposed pockets with one of their ends open. The same number of matches are housed within the pockets, with their heads protruding from the open end of the respective pocket. On the external surface of the box there is a region for striking the heads of the matches in order to light them.

The strip with the pockets is placed on the back of the front face of the box, next to its upper edge, in such a way that the heads of the matches protrude over the said edge. The region for striking the heads of the matches to light them is placed on the outer surface of the rear face of the lid.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

To improve understanding of what is described in the present specification it is accompanied by a number of drawings in which, with only the status of example, one possible embodiment of the box is represented.

In the said drawings figure 1 is a perspective view of the open box for cigarettes; figure 2 is a side elevation view of the open box for cigarettes; figure 3 is a rear perspective view of the closed box; and figure 4 is a transverse section in detail of the strip with the matches.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The box for cigarettes, of general reference -1-, is provided on the back of its front face -2- with a thin strip -3-, similar to a strip of corrugated cardboard, having a number of laterally juxtaposed pockets -4-, and with their upper end -5- open and rising slightly above the upper edge -6- of the face -2-.

Within each pocket -4- is housed a match -7- whose head -8- protrudes over the end -5- of the pockets in order to ease the extraction of the matches.

On the rear face of the lid -1a- of the box -1- there is a region -9- for striking the heads -8- of the matches -7- in order to light them when required.

It is clear from the above description that the user of this box for cigarettes will always have matches -7- available to light the cigarettes contained in the box.

The simplicity of the box described allows it to be sold commercially at a price only slightly higher than the known boxes and is thus widely redeemable in relation to the service rendered.

Independent of the object of the invention shall be the materials used in manufacturing of the components of the box for cigarettes, shapes and dimensions of same and all accessory details which might be presented, as long as they do not affect its essential nature.

Claims

1. Box (1) for cigarettes of the type which is formed by a cardboard container with an articulated lid (1a) made from the same cardboard which forms the container, characterised in that it comprises internally a thin strip (3) with a plurality of laterally juxtaposed pockets (4) with one of their ends open (5), the same number of matches (7) being housed within said pockets (4) with their heads (8) protruding from the open ends of the respective pockets (4), while on one of the surfaces of the box (1) there is a region (9) for striking the heads (8) of the matches (7) in order to light them.
2. Box (1) for cigarettes according to claim 1 characterised in that the strip (3) with the pockets (4) is placed on the back of the front face (2) of the box (1), next to its upper edge (6), so that the heads (8) of the matches (7) protrude over the said edge (6), while said region (9) for striking the heads (8) of the matches (7) is placed on the external surface of the rear face of the lid (1a).

FIG. 1

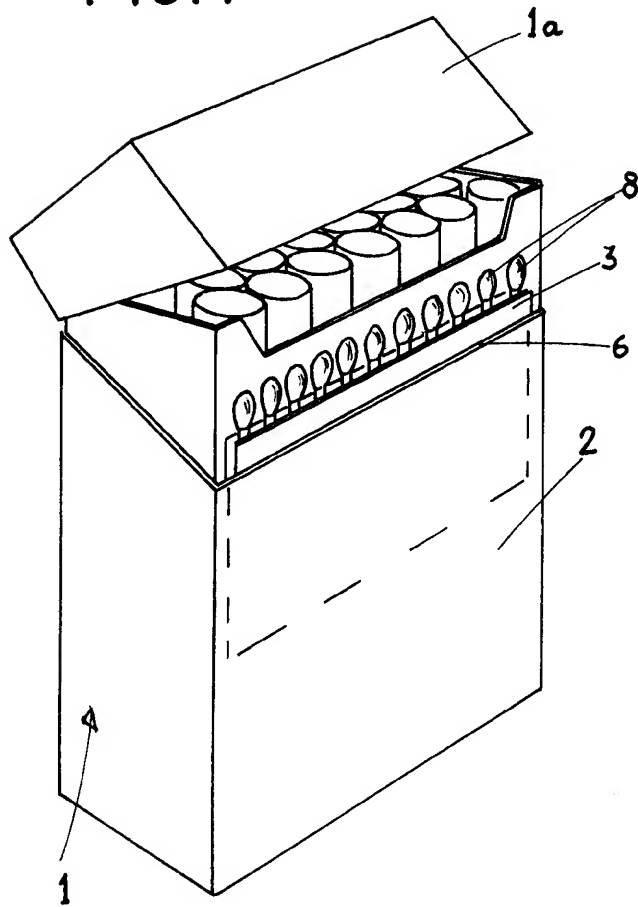


FIG. 2

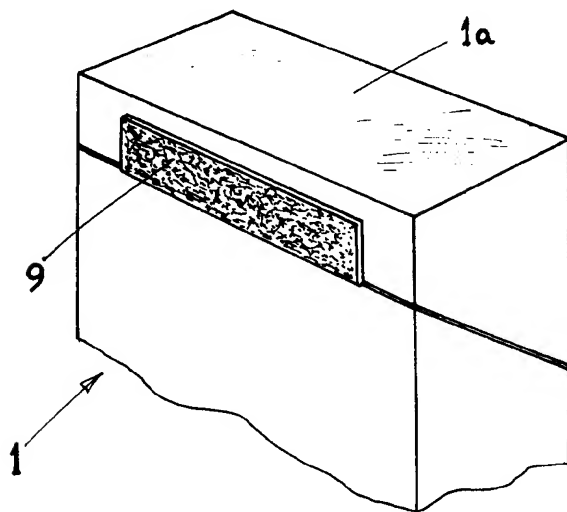
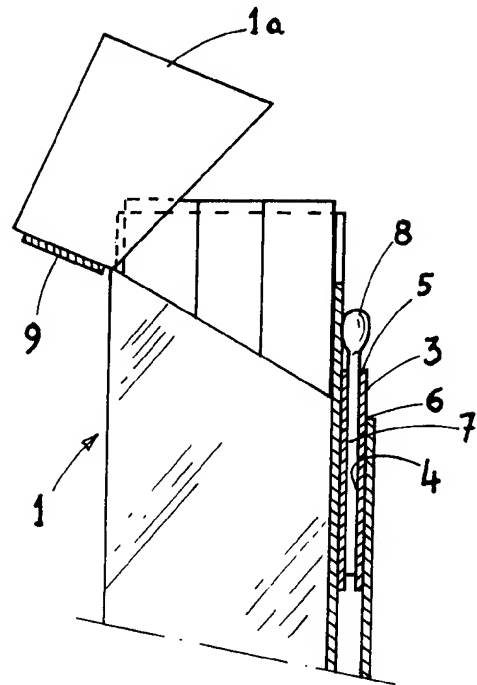


FIG. 3

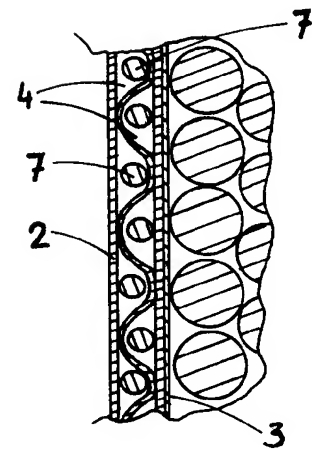


FIG. 4



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 91 50 0138

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5) |
| Y | AU-A-41 881 /68 (JOHNSTON) * the whole document * | 1-2 | A24F15/18 B65D85/10 |
| Y | US-A-1 975 732 (PULLEN) * page 1, line 96 - page 2, line 13; figures 1-6 * | 1-2 | |
| A | FR-A-2 079 670 (PREMISKI) * page 1, line 35 - page 4, line 3; figures 1-3 * | 1-2 | |
| A | GB-A-341 264 (OSBORNE ASTON) * the whole document * | 1 | |
| A | FR-A-1 354 052 (CHAMBON) * the whole document * | 1 | |
| A | GB-A-20 889 A.D.1912 (BALON) * the whole document * | 1 | |
| A | CH-A-385 087 (LOHNER) * the whole document * | 1 | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) A24F B65D |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 27 MARCH 1992 | Examiner RIEGEL R.E. |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document I : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document | | | |

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